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ABSTRACT

This edition of "Only the Best" identifies 183 of the most recent education software programs that have met the high standards of 37 software evaluator services since the 1990 edition was published. The purpose of this document is to provide a quick, easy way for computer coordinators, librarians, curriculum directors, teachers, school administrators, students, and parents to find the highest-rated microcomputer education software available. The introduction provides a detailed explanation of how the programs were selected, and the first of four major parts of the guide presents an alphabetical listing by title of the 183 highest rated programs as well as a listing by the following subject areas: arts, college entrance exams, early childhood education, health education, language arts, mathematics, problem solving, science, social studies, special education, student helpers, tool programs, and typing. The description for each of these programs includes the subject areas, the copyright date, grade level(s), hardware requirements, cost, type of program, a brief description, teaching tips, a summary of evaluation conclusions, and bibliographic citations for several reviews that appeared in magazines. It is noted that 36 of these new programs have been recommended by the evaluators as being especially useful for children or teachers in special education classes. The second part lists 28 highly promising new programs that received an "excellent" grade from at least one of the evaluation services, but not enough agreement to make the winners' category. The third section lists 181 education software programs from the 1990 edition, and a directory of the producers of all the programs concludes the guide. (DB)

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